

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 EB-08 FRB-01
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-07 CEA-01 /083 R

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-----075725 102344Z /61

P 102247Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, JA

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE: - CASE NO. 6 -
GENERAL DATACOMM INDUSTRIES INC.

REF: (A) GLICK/KLEIN TELCON 3/30, (B) TOKYO 3011;
(C) STATE 69838, (D) TOKYO 5674

1. SUMMARY: ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL MET WITH MINISTER
KAWAHARA MARCH 31 TO EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT WITH NIPPON
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH (NTT) REJECTION OF REQUESTED
CANCELLATION OF PLANNED APRIL 1 RATE CHANGE. END SUMMARY

2. WE WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT NTT, AS REPORTED BY KLEIN
(REF A), REJECTED REQUEST THAT IT POSTPONE IMPLEMENTING
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SCHEDULED APRIL 1 RATE CHANGE TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME TO
RESOLVE THIS CASE (REF C). ACCORDINGLY, ASSISTANT
SECRETARY WEIL CALLED IN MINISTER KAWAHARA MARCH 31 TO
EXPRESS HIS CONCERN OVER THE NTT ACTION. WEIL MADE
FOLLOWING POINTS.

A. FROM THE AMERICAN BUSINESS EXECUTIVE'S PERSPECTIVE THE

NTT REFUSAL TO CANCEL THE PROPOSED RATE CHANGE AS REQUESTED THROUGH THE TFC IS SYMPTOMATIC OF A LESS THAN POSITIVE GOJ ATTITUDE TOWARDS INCREASING IMPORTS. THE DECISION IS

PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT TO AMERICAN BUSINESS SINCE NTT IS A GOVERNMENT CORPORATION AND WOULD BE EXPECTED TO REFLECT GOJ POLICY.

B. U.S. BUSINESS WILL, CONSEQUENTLY, VIEW THE NTT DECISION AS A BAD SIGN, AND WE NEED TO MINIMIZE BAD SIGNS. THE NTT DECISION UNFORTUNATELY, COMES JUST AT THE TIME WHEN WE ARE BEGINNING TO OVERCOME SOME OF THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY'S SKEPTICISM TOWARDS JAPAN'S EFFORTS TO INCREASE IMPORTS.

C. WHILE WE EXPECT TO WIN SOME AND TO LOSE SOME, IN GENERAL WE ARE CONCERNED MORE WITH THE TREND EVIDENCED BY THE GOJ ACTIONS ON THE CHAIN OF CASES SUBMITTED THROUGH THE TFC THAN WITH DECISION IN ANY ONE CASE. THE NTT DECISION, THEREFORE, IS OF CONCERN AS IT MAY REFLECT A QUESTIONABLE GOJ ATTITUDE TOWARD OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF TFC AND SPIRIT UNDERLYING ITS FORMATION.

D. IF THIS DECISION IS REVERSIBLE AND WE CAN GET IT REVERSED, IT WOULD BE A DOUBLE VICTORY FOR BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS.

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3. APPRECIATE EMBASSY REPORT (REF D) ON MITI RESPONSE TO SUBJECT CASE AND CONCUR THAT WE SHOULD MAKE FURTHER REPRESENTATION. LOOKING FORWARD TO EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION.

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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TAGS: BEXP, JA
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